

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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There will be many a "cold bottle" in the Barre saloons next Monday.

A good many Vermont people would be glad to go out and "cut a cord" if they had a tree to work on.

The closing of the dance halls will give the young people a chance to shoulder the snow shovel for exercise.

Trotsky says the Germans are garbling the reports of the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk. Presently they will eat up what is left.

When you read that So-and-so is home on a five days' vacation you know what it means right off; he is working for Uncle Sam in that time.

The calmer thought of the nation is already asserting itself in connection with the Garfield closing order. There is not such a general chorus of calamity howlers.

The Barre Town branch of the American Red Cross society is one of the most active organizations in the whole state, and it is doing a fine work in behalf of the soldiers.

Fuel Administrator Garfield might have made his first explanation of the fuel closing order more clear and convincing than he did. It was not a particularly convincing statement in and of itself.

Some idea of the size of the talc industry of Moretown-Waterbury is furnished by the statement that 94 men are employed in one mine, not counting the bosses. It is an industry not to be sneezed at, however, much the dust may blow.

The Vermont committee on public safety will do a good work in telling us which campaigns engineered under the guise of war funds ought to receive support from the public of Vermont. We are glad to learn that this work, which we have advocated, has been undertaken.

State Fuel Administrator H. J. M. Jones and his office force at Montpelier should not be bothered more than is absolutely necessary during the rush incident to the national fuel administration's order. Mr. Jones is giving out the information just as soon as it is interpreted to him from Washington.

We are planning to publish soon the revised list of enlistments from Barre, and we would urge all who have knowledge of Barre men in the service of the United States or our allies whose names did not appear in the previous list to send the names in at once. We desire to make the list as complete and as accurate as possible so that it may form the foundation for a record of Barre's part in the war.

The destruction by fire of a large barn, "the largest in Orleans county," together with 80 head of cattle, five horses, nine hogs, farming implements and heavy stocks, is the second misfortune of that nature to fall upon Little West Glover within a year, the previous fire, last February, having also consumed one of the best specimens of barn construction in that vicinity. The structure burned last Tuesday night measured some 330 feet in length, being in the form of a main barn with annex at right angles; and it was up to date in many particulars, including electric lighting and electric attachment for separating milk. The presence of electric wires in the building opens the way to the theory that the fire was caused by defective wiring; but it does not preclude some other theory as to the cause of the outbreak of fire. In any event the occurrence is calculated to cause people to demand safe methods of wiring when they install electric lights or electric apparatus in their barns, structures which are the most likely to catch fire in case of defects in laying the wires.

There is a striking association between two items of news that have come across the ocean during the last two days. One of these items tells of the sinking of the British merchant ship loss to one-third of the previous week's loss, and the other tells of serious mutiny on the part of the crews of German submarines at the great naval base of the Germans at Kiel. The former comes from official sources in London, and the latter comes, naturally enough, from an unofficial and round-about source. But although the report of the German seamen's mutiny, in which 38 officers of submarines were killed, comes from unauthenticated sources there is an element of plausibility in the story when it is placed in juxtaposition to the British official report of largely decreased merchant ship loss because the known occurrence and the supposed occurrence were in a natural sequence. Hence it is reasonable to suspect that the decrease in merchant ship loss of the British was due to the refusal of a large number of the crews of the German submarines to go into the depth of the sea quota.



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to meet the deadly depth bombs introduced into the war by American naval men.

BAKER'S PARRIES.

It looks puerile for a newspaper of such discernment as the Boston Herald to complain because Secretary of War Baker, on the occasion of his recent grilling by a congressional committee, failed to come out flat-footed and tell just how fast American troops were being sent to Europe and a number of similar questions, straight answers to which would have been snapped up by our enemies with great avidity. Secretary Baker may have some faults, but letting the cat out of the bag is not one of them, apparently, for he refused to make a statement on which the enemies of the United States could form a basis for judgment of what the United States is doing in the line of getting ready for a big fight. Enough good information has leaked out already for the edification of the Germans, and the sum total should not be increased by statements by officials. Instead of being censured for his beating about the bush in reply to the pointed questions of the congressional grillers, Secretary Baker ought to be commended for keeping his own counsel, whatever other grounds there may be for finding fault with the man at the head of the war department.

HELPING THE SOLDIERS.

The Times desires once more to call the attention of its readers to the Knights of Columbus war fund, for which a drive is to be instituted in Vermont tomorrow at the same time as throughout the nation. The purpose of the drive is to raise three millions of dollars for the betterment of the camp life of our American soldiers at home and abroad. One of the plans is to form recreation centers for the men when they are off duty, and it is a splendid purpose as those who know anything about army life tell us. To give the soldiers legitimate and wholesome enjoyments that will keep them away from some of the evils incident to army life is worth doing. The Y. M. C. A. is doing a great deal along that line by virtue of the splendid response to its appeal for subscriptions. The order of the Knights of Columbus has already done something for the aid and comfort of our soldiers and it proposes to do much more, providing it is given the support in this undertaking which it hopes for and has a right to expect. Vermont is asked to contribute \$50,000 toward the \$3,000,000 desired, and Vermont ought to give that sum most gladly. The larger places in the state, and no doubt many of the smaller communities, have been quite well organized for the campaign and beginning with the first of the week the canvassers will ask you for contributions to the fund. Incidentally, it may be remarked that this Knights of Columbus campaign has received the approval of the Vermont committee of public safety, upon which devolves the responsibility of picking out the good and reliable "drives" from the uncertain or unreliable efforts that are being made to collect money. Let Vermont be one of the states to meet its quota.

Record Strength

The outstanding tendency of things financial and economic is toward federalization.

Banks, railroads and other necessary financial and economic machinery must be unified to give needed efficiency.

An appreciation of the abundant strength of the federal banking system may be gathered from the following:

"The total resources of the 7,656 National Banks on Nov. 20, 1917, was \$18,553,000,000.00. These resources exceed by more than \$500,000,000.00 the total combined resources of all state banks (doing a commercial business), all private banks and all trust companies in the United States as of June 20, 1917—the latest date for which state bank returns have been compiled. Total deposits in national banks on Nov. 20, 1917, were \$14,798,000,000.00, a high-water mark."

Peoples National Bank of Barre



CURRENT COMMENT

The Conscription of All Labor.

There is no loud talk of the conscription of labor, but there is constant whispering of it. People talk about the conscription of wealth much more boldly. No public man dares to bring up the subject of labor conscription in Congress and there is no prospect that a conscription measure will be seriously considered. The trade unions would resent the proposal and the number of persons who would cry "slavery" the moment a practical project of the sort was introduced would be multitudinous. Is not this antagonistic state of mind largely due to the assumption that conscription would mean merely the loss of industrial freedom by the present wage-earning class? Few, perhaps, have reflected on ways to popularize the idea.

Bernhard Shaw has recently advocated a form of labor conscription that should meet some of the objections now entertained by trade unionists. His idea is compulsory work for all, not compulsory work for a few, or nearly all. Put our dukes to work, he says. Under this form of labor conscription there could be no concessions to conscientious objectors among the wealthy. Everyone in health would be obliged to work according to his capacity. If the duke should ask what was the use in being a duke if he had to work in a factory, Shaw's answer would be that there was no use at all except that a prodigious amount of comfort would be given to all the other workmen in the shop by the knowledge that the duke was working there also.

It requires no great courage to say that a real conscription of labor means just this kind of a process—a leveling process if you please. That is what military conscription involves. The son of a millionaire George Gould is a common soldier to-day in an army cantonment and he is on a level with thousands of other drafted men. If labor is to be conscripted, every able-bodied man and woman, who to-day does nothing but live on an invested income, should be subject to a call to service wherever the need for that person's labor was urgent. We should put the gallants of the Palm Beach colony to work on farms next spring exactly as Shaw would put a British duke to work in a factory. If any millionaire's unmarried daughter or divorced wife were living a life of elegant leisure, she would, of course, be commandeered as a stenographer or as a worker in any line for which she were fitted—even if it happened to be peeling potatoes in a barracks.

Socialist theorists have always insisted on everybody going to work. In the conscription of labor there would be compulsory industrial service. It would not be so bad, after all, if the idea were now developed in the emergency on a non-discriminatory, work-for-all basis. But what is impossible is conscription of labor with special exemptions for the people who are now living in soft ease.—Springfield Republican.

WAITSFIELD

Notes of the Waitsfield High School.

The senior class will hold a promenade Friday, Jan. 25, in the school auditorium. The high school lecture course will present its third number, the Athenian Jubilee trio, Tuesday evening. School lunches will be served every Tuesday and Thursday noons, beginning next Tuesday, Jan. 22. Lunch will consist of one hot dish, which will be served to pupils of junior high school and grades at a small sum, sufficient to cover actual cost of materials, probably two or three cents.

Elman and Violins.

Mischa Elman, the Russian violinist, who is to play in Burlington on Thursday, Jan. 24, like most other celebrities, is annoyed by all sorts of musical crankiness. One favorite device is something to improve the tone. Elman says: "There is but one way to get a good tone out of a fiddle, and that is to have it played by a good violinist." Probably he can make a two-dollar fiddle sound like a thousand-dollar one. The violin he uses cost \$10,000.

"My first word of advice to purchasers of violins is, do not believe all you read on the label inside," says Elman. "It is the easiest thing in the world to paste imitation old labels in a fiddle. No one but an experienced violinist can be sure of a genuine instrument. Do not waste time looking in pawn shops for a Stradivarius worth ten thousand dollars. Such things happen once in a hundred years—sometimes. "If you have a violin, keep it clean; do not let rosin accumulate under the strings or on them. Shun wire Estrings—they ruin the bow and cut the bridge. If you are beginning to study the instrument, get as good a one as you can afford. Cheap violins never improve, even if they last 200 years. Violins that have been in the family for many years are not always valuable. Just because it looks old and dusty is no proof that it is worth more than ten dollars."—Adv.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT THE CHURCHES

TIMES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP AND SUBJECTS OF SERMONS

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—Services held every Sunday in Washburn hall. Sunday school at 2 p. m. Meeting at 3 p. m. Everybody invited. No collection.

Washington Baptist Church—W. H. Bishop, pastor. 12:30 noon, Bible school, 1:30 p. m., preaching service, sermon by pastor; theme, "A Veteran's Retrospect and Prospect." All are invited to these services.

East Barre Congregational Church—James Ramage, pastor. Subject of talk to young people, "The Beetle with Two Sets of Eyes." Sermon topic, "Looking Forward." Sunday school as usual. Everybody welcome.

Berlin Corners Congregational Church—Frank Blomfield, pastor. 10:45 a. m., the first of a course of sermons on the Christian virtues, "Faith." Another let-ter will theme, "From a Berlin sailor boy." Sunday school at noon.

Christian Science Church—Service at 10:45 a. m. Wednesday evening meeting at 7:30. To these services all are welcome. The reading room is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 3 to 5 p. m. 7 Summer street.

St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Westerville—W. J. M. Beattie, rector. Evening prayer and sermon at 3 o'clock. Sunday school at 2 p. m. Cottage prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:15 at the home of Mrs. Coxon, Westerville.

Westerville Baptist Church—W. H. Bishop, pastor. 10:30 a. m., preaching service; sermon by pastor; theme, "The Lost Sheep." 11:30 a. m., Bible school, 7 p. m., gospel service, special singing; theme, "Behold the Evil Influence." All welcome to all services.

Church of the Good Shepherd—W. J. M. Beattie, rector. Corporate communion for women at 10 a. m. Morning prayer and sermon, 10:30 a. m. Sunday school at 11:30 a. m. Evening prayer and sermon at 7 o'clock. Morning subject, "The Nature of the Christian Church"; evening subject, "Our Life After Death," it being the first of a series of Sunday night sermons on the "Problems of the Spiritual World." There will be a cottage prayer meeting at the home of Mrs. James Peet, Circle street, Friday evening at 7:30.

Presbyterian Church, corner Summer and Seminary streets—Edgar Crossland, pastor. Morning service at 10:30; subject of address, "Immeasurable Love." Sunday school at noon. At 7 p. m., preaching service, the subject of the sermon being, "The Young Man Who Came to Himself," the second of a series of sermons on the prodigal son. Monday at 7 p. m., special meeting of boy scouts. Monday at 8 p. m., special business meeting of the Men's club. Thursday, 7:30 p. m., midweek prayer meeting in the home of William Craig, 19 Eastern avenue.

First Baptist Church—Bert J. Lehigh, pastor; residence, 27 Franklin street. Preaching on Sunday by the pastor at

10:30 and 7 o'clock. Theme for morning, "Should Things Happen According to the Mind of God or the Mind of Men?" Evening subject, "The Unpardonable Sin." Bible school at 12 o'clock. Y. P. S. C. E. meeting at 6. In the afternoon, a committee of men will make an every-member canvass of the church. Cottage prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7:30 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Williams of Washington street. Everyone is cordially invited to worship with us.

Congregational - Universalist (union service)—John B. Beardon, minister. Public worship and sermon at 10:30; subject, the third and last sermon in the series on "What Constitutes the True Success of Life and How It May Be Attained." Bible study at 11:45; subject, "Jesus at Work." Devotional meeting of the Young People's Christian union in the vestry at 6; subject, "How Can I Live My Belief in the Brotherhood of Man?"; leader, Ethel McFarland. Public worship and sermon at 7; subject, "The Power of Sympathy." The music for the morning service: Organ, prelude, "Chorus of Shepherds" (Lemmens); offertory, "Berenice" (Hynesky); anthems, "Great is the Lord" (Harker) and "The Lost Sheep" (Jordan). Evening music: Organ, "Meditation" (Chaminade); anthems, "The Shadows of the Evening Hours" (Shelley) and "I Will Give You Rest" (West).

KEEP YOUR MOUTHS SHUT.

(By Pauline Worth Hamlin of The Vigilantes.)

Twice lately I have overheard people talking of things that would delight the ear of a German spy and yet I could tell from the rest of their conversation that they were loyal Americans.

Once on a suburban train I was sitting in front of two women who were knitting for the soldiers. They talked of their Red Cross, canteen and war relief work. They were without doubt true patriots yet one of them said to the other, in a lowered voice but perfectly audible, "My nephew, who is a captain in the army, told his mother—" and the information was something of which I could have made use had I been a spy.

Another time on the train I overheard two men talking. They told some news that an ambulance driver had brought home from France. This information, which seemed to them not to be important, struck me as being highly enlightening—too much so for German ears. And so I say to all loyal Americans, take unto yourselves Attorney General Gregory's advice to the Germans and when outside your own four walls, "Keep your mouths shut."

1918

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